view of a stay obtained by the private operators of this route through the Court of Law.

Linking of Gurgaon Telephones with M.T.N.L

891. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to link Gurgaon Telephones with M.T.N.L. as in the case of Faridabad etc. and do away with STD for Delhi; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to link Gurgaon Telephones with MTNL on local call basis.

(b) Question does not arise.

"Forest Land in Kerala"

892. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new decision has been taken by Government to give title deeds to the cultivators settlers of Forest land in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Occupancy at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port

893. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that berth occupancy at Jawahar Lal Nehru port is very low at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the names of the shipping lines who have been regular users of the port; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve the occupancy of the port?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KATADIA): (a) The average berth occupancy at bulk terminal during the year is 74 per ent & at Container Terminal it is 18 per cent which is very low.

(b) The port was inaugurated only in May, 1989 and had teething problems including lack of certain infrastructural facilities. There is reluctance on the part of users to switch over their operations from Bombay to Jawahar Lal Nehru Port.

(c) A list is given in the statement attached.

(d) The following steps have been/are being taken to improve occupancy of the port:

(i) Training of staff.

(ii) Rectification of defects of handling equipments.

(iii) Efforts are being made to get NH 4B completed as early as possible.

(iv) Aggressive Marketing strategy has been adopted to attract more container traffic.

(v) A Tele-communication centre having telex/fax facilities has been opened at the Port Users' Building.

(vi) Central Documentation Centre has started functioning for the convenience of port users.

(vii) Improvement in transport facilities between Bombay and Jawahar Lal Nehru Port has been brought.